

WAKABAYASHI *et al.*, SN 10/715,387  
Second Prelim. Amdt. dated 02/10/2005

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### REMARKS

This Supplemental Preliminary Amendment is submitted to present the above amendments, and is further responsive in any other manner indicated below.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended at the information submitted on page 1 in the Preliminary Amendment filed 19 November 2003 to correct a minor error in the information. No new matter is added.

### PENDING CLAIMS

Unrelated to any cited art, scope or rejection in any prior application, pending Claims 1-19 are cancelled (without prejudice or disclaimer), and new Claims 20-33 are presented herein to adjust a clarity and/or focus of Applicant's claimed invention. That is, Claims 20-33 are simply clarified claims in which Applicant is presently interested, and many features/limitations of the previously-pending claims parallel the features/limitations of new Claims 20-33. For example, many of the features/limitations of new Claim 20 parallel the features/limitations found in previous Claim 2, and Claim 20 finds support throughout the application as filed, at, e.g., at page 7, second paragraph. The other new claims, for example, Claims 28-33, also find support throughout the application, e.g., at FIGs. 3 and 4, at page 9, line 10 through page 10, line 2, and at page 11, lines 4-7.

Upon entry of this paper, Claims 20-33 will be pending for consideration and examination in the present application.

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### RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

It is respectfully submitted that any and all claim amendments and/or cancellations submitted within this paper and throughout prosecution of the present application are without prejudice or disclaimer. That is, any above statements, or any present amendment or cancellation of claims (all made without prejudice or disclaimer), should not be taken as an indication or admission that any objection/rejection was valid, or as a disclaimer of any scope or subject matter. Applicant respectfully reserves all rights to file subsequent related application(s) (including reissue applications) directed to any/all previously claimed limitations/features which have been subsequently amended or cancelled, or to any/all limitations/features not yet claimed, *i.e.*, Applicant continues (indefinitely) to maintain no intention or desire to dedicate or surrender any limitations/features of subject matter of the present application to the public.

### EXAMINER INVITED TO TELEPHONE

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the local D.C. area number 703-312-6600, to discuss an Examiner's Amendment or other suggested action for accelerating prosecution and moving the present application to allowance.

### CONCLUSION

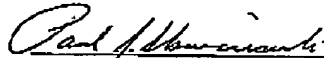
This Second Preliminary Amendment is being filed prior to the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in this case. Further, the new claims presented herein total less than 20, which include less than a total of 3 independent claims, so no additional filing/claim fees are required. Please charge any actual deficiency in

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required fees for entry of this paper to ATS&K Deposit Account No. 01-2135  
(referencing Case No. 500.38056CC4).

Respectfully submitted,



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